IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly replace the claims of record with the following full set of claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently amended)   A method of producing a new module-based software architecture <u>of a computer program suitable for execution on a processor</u> based on an existing module-based architecture comprising a plurality of modules (M0-M4), at least one module of said plurality being a module (M1) adapted to call another one (M3) of said plurality of modules using a reference (&M3) to said called module, wherein the reference (&M3) of the module to be called is supplied as an input to said calling module (M1), the method comprising the steps of:

   removing at least one of said plurality of modules (M3), and

   altering the value of inputs corresponding to the reference (&M3) of the removed module.

5. (Currently amended)   ~~An architecture producing~~ <u>The</u> method according to claim 4, wherein each of said plurality of modules (M0-M4) is adapted to recognize as a null reference an input parameter having a predetermined value and to not make a call when the module to be called is indicated by the null reference, and wherein the altering step comprises replacing the inputs corresponding to the reference (&M3) of the removed module with a null reference.

6.   (Currently amended) ~~An architecture producing~~ The method according to claim 4, and comprising the step of:

replacing the removed module by a replacement module (M5) having a different reference (&M5), wherein the altering step comprises replacing inputs corresponding to the reference (&M3) of the removed module with inputs corresponding to the reference (&M5) of the replacement module.

7. (Currently amended)   ~~An architecture producing~~ The method according to claim 4, wherein each module (Mx) corresponds to a software entity selected in the group consisting of: functions, procedures, operating system tasks and layers.

8. (Cancelled)